

SIIA Statement on EU-US Trade and Technology Council Meeting

The following statement can be attributed to Paul Lekas, Senior Vice President, Global Policy, Software & Information Industry Association regarding Monday's ministerial meeting of the U.S.-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC).

SIIA continues to support the work of the TTC to further transatlantic relations and advance common interests, including grounding an international rules-based approach to trade, technology, and innovation founded on democratic principles; establishing frameworks for the development and deployment of new technologies based on these principles; and promoting sustainable and inclusive approaches to growth, development, and digital transformation. SIIA congratulates both sides on another successful meeting. Since its formation in June 2021, the TTC has made significant and tangible progress across a range of work streams, all of which will help to further cement the transatlantic relationship.

The third meeting of the TTC held this week has led to important measures on new and emerging technologies, supporting secure and resilient digital connectivity in third countries, strengthening support for human rights and combating online censorship, and others.

SIIA has advocated for the United States and European Union to align on a framework for assessing the risk and impact of artificial intelligence (AI) as a way to encourage innovation while addressing associated risks. In this vein, we are particularly pleased by the TTC's efforts to develop a [Joint Roadmap on Evaluation and Measurement Tools for Trustworthy AI and Risk Management](#) (the "Joint AI Roadmap"). The Joint AI Roadmap represents a critical step towards democratic alignment to promote innovation in AI while establishing necessary guardrails using a risk-based framework. It sets out a common vision for pursuing AI policy and regulation, cooperation on international technology standards, support for key international and multi-stakeholder initiatives including those of the OECD, and joint projects around AI assessment and monitoring.

Looking ahead to the next ministerial meeting, we encourage the U.S. and EU officials to advance concrete measures to realize the policies reflected in the Joint AI Roadmap and advance pilot projects on privacy enhancing technologies.

We remain concerned with the EU's insistence that active legislative files are off-limits for discussion in the TTC. Given the EU's statements this week about the Inflation Reduction Act, we believe that in light of the breadth and ambition of EU digital rulemaking – including the proposed Artificial Intelligence Act and Data Act – it would be helpful to leverage this important forum to identify potential issues and clear up misunderstandings before they become full-blown problems.